Case 1:22-cv-03176-PKC

Document

what did you plead guilty to and what did you plead not guilty to? N/A

6.	If you went to trial, what kind of trial did you have? (check one)
	Jury ■ Judge only □
7.	Did you testify at either a pretrial, trial, or a post-trial hearing?
	Yes □ No ■
8.	Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction?
	Yes ■ No □
9.	If your answer to 8 was "Yes", attach a copy of the appeals court decision to this petition and
ans	swer the following:
	(a) Name of court: Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department
	(b) Docket or case number (if you know): 2016-05886
	(c) Result: Judgment Modified, as a matter of discretion in the interest of justice, (1) by vacating
the	conviction of assault in the second degree, vacating the sentence imposed thereon, and dismissing
that	t count of the indictment. (2) by reducing the sentence imposed on the conviction of burglary in the
first	t degree from a determinate term of imprisonment of 25 years to be followed by a period of
pos	strelease supervision of 5 years to a determinate term of imprisonment of 10 years to be followed by a
per	iod of postrelease supervision of 5 years, and (3) by directing that the consecutive sentence imposed
on	the conviction of aggravated criminal contempt under count 28 of the indictment shall instead run
con	ncurrently with the consecutive sentences imposed on the convictions of attempted murder in the
<u>sec</u>	cond degree and burglary in the first degree; as so modified, the judgment is affirmed
	(d) Date of result (if you know): November 25, 2020
	(e) Citation to the case (if you know): <u>188 A.D.3d 1239 (2nd Dept. 2020)</u>
	(f) Grounds raised: 1) Appellant's conviction of second-degree assault of Jacob Rodriguez must be
rev	ersed because mere cheek redness or swelling was insufficient to prove physical injury 2) The
<u>Pec</u>	ople failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that Appellant caused Christina Rodriguez to
<u>refu</u>	te her prior statements implicating appellant when the evidence at the sirois hearing showed she
dec	sided on her own to help appellant and was not under his control. 3) The imposition of a consecutive
ser	tence for the first degree burglary count was illegal when the court's instructions allowed the jury to
COL	<u>rvict appellant of the burglary based on the same act or acts underlying the attempted murder and</u>
sec	cond-degree assault convictions 4) The imposition of consecutive sentences totaling 59 1/3/ to 64
yea	ars in prison for the 45-year-old appellant was excessive and vindictive.
10.	Did you seek further review by a higher state court? Yes ■ No □
	If your answer to 10 was "Yes", attach a copy of the higher state court decision to this petition
and	answer the following:
	(a) Name of court: New York State Court of Appeals
	(b) Docket or case number (if you know): N/A
	(c) Result: Denied Permission for Leave

(d) Date of result (if you know): March 18, 2021
(e) Citation to the case (if you know): 36 N.Y.3d 1095
(f) Grounds raised: Same as above
12. Did you file a petition for centiorari in the United States Supreme Court? Yes □ No ■
13. If your answer to 12 was "Yes", attach a copy of the United States Supreme Court decision to this
petition and answer the following with respect to each direct appeal you asked the United States
Supreme Court to review:
(a) Docket or case number (if you know): <u>N/A</u>
(b) Result: N/A
(c) Date of result (if you know): <u>N/A</u>
(d) Citation to the case (if you know): N/A
(e) List <u>all</u> grounds you raised (1) <u>N/A</u>
(2) <u>N/A</u>
(3) <u>N/A</u>
14. Other than the direct appeals from the judgment of conviction and sentence, have you previously
filed any petitions, applications, or motions (e.g. a petition under CPL §§440, a state habeas corpus
petition, or a previous petition under 28 USC 2254) with respect to this judgment of conviction in any
court, state or federal?
Yes Do
15. If your answer to 14 was "Yes", attach a copy of that court's decision to this petition and give the
following information:
(a) Name of court: N/A
(b) Docket or case number (if you know): N/A
(c) Date of filing (if you know): N/A
(d) Nature of the proceeding: N/A (e) Grounds Raised: N/A
(f) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your petition, application, or motion?
Yes No Ves Ves Ves Ves Ves Ves Ves Ves Ves
(g) Result:N/A
(h) Date of result (if you know):N/A
6. If your answer to 14 was "Yes" and you also filed any second petition, application, or motion, attach
copy of that court's decision to this petition and give the same information:
(a) Name of court:N/A
(b) Docket or case number (if you know): N/A
(c) Date of filing (if you know): N/A
(d) Nature of the proceeding: N/A

(e) List <u>all</u> the grounds	you raised: ((1) <u>N/A</u>		_	
(2) <u>N/A</u>			*	·	
(3) <u>N/A</u>	·····			_	
(e) Did you receive an	evidenctiary	hearing o	n your peti	ition, application, or n	notion?
Yes 🗆	No				
(f) Result: N/A					
(g) Date of result (if yo	u know): <u>N//</u>	Α			
As to any third, fourth, et	c. petition, a	pplication	or motion	, attach a copy of th	at court's decision to
this petition give the same info	rmation aske	ed for unde	er 15 and 1	6.	
17. If your answer to 14 wa	as "Yes" and	d if the c	ourt did n	ot grant the petition	(s), application(s), or
motion(s) you listed under 15	and 16, did	you appea	al to an inte	ermediate court of a	ppeals (e.g., the New
York State Court of Appeals o	r the Second	Circuit Co	ourt of App	eals)?	
Yes 🗆	No				
18. If your answer to 17 was	"Yes", attac	n a copy o	of that cour	t's decision to this pe	etition and answer the
following regarding each petition	on, application	n, or motic	on:		
(a) Name of Court:	N/A				
(b) Dated filed:	N/A				
(c) Result:	N/A				
(d) Date of result (if yo	u know): <u>N</u>	/A			
(e)Citation to the case					
(f) List all grounds you raised	:				
19. Did you appeal to a hi	gher state c	ourt (e.g.,	the NYS	Court of Appeals)	or the United States
Supreme Court for review of					
15 and 16?					
(1) First petition:	Yes		No	0	
(2) Second petition:	Yes		No		
(3) Third petition:	Yes		No		
[List any other petition and	d indicate yes	or no]			
20. For each "Yes" in 19, atta	ch a copy of	that court	's decision	to this petition and a	nswer the following
information:					
(a) Name of Court:N	VA				
(b) Dated filed:	√A				
(c) Result:N	/A				
(d) Date of result (if yo	u know): <u>N</u>	/A		<u> </u>	
(e) Citation to the cas	se: <u>N/A</u>			•	
(f) List <u>all</u> grounds you	raised: N	/A			

21.	If you did no	t appeal	from the	adverse	action or	n any	petition,	application,	or motion,	explain	briefly
why	you did not: _	N/A									

22. State concisely every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. If necessary, you may attach pages stating additional grounds and facts supporting same.

CAUTION: In order to proceed in the federal court, you must ordinarily first exhaust your available state court remedies on each ground on which you request action by the federal court. See 28 USC §2254(b). If you fail to set forth all the grounds in this petition, you may be barred from presenting additional grounds at a later date. See 28 USC §2254(b).

For your information, the following is a list of the most frequently raised grounds for relief in habeas corpus proceedings. Each statement preceded by a letter constitutes a separate ground for possible relief. You may raise any grounds which you may have other than those listed if you have exhausted your state court remedies with respect to them. However, you should raise in this petition all available grounds (relating to this conviction) on which you base your allegations that you are being held in custody unlawfully.

Do not check any of these listed grounds. If you select one or more of these grounds for relief, you must allege facts. The petition will be returned to you if you merely check (a) through (j) or any one of these grounds.

- (a) Conviction obtained by plea of guilty which was unlawfully induced or not made voluntarily with understanding of the nature of hecharge and the consequences of the plea.
 - (b) Conviction obtained by use of coerced confession.
- (c) Conviction obtained by use of evidence gained pursuant to an unconstitutional search and seizure.
 - (d) Conviction obtained by use of evidence obtained pursuant to an unlawful arrest.
 - (e) Conviction obtained by a violation of the privilege against self-discrimination.
- (f) Conviction obtained by the unconstitutional failure of the prosecution to disclose to the defendant evidence favorable to the defendant.
 - (g) Conviction obtained by a violation of the protection of double jeopardy.
- (h) Conviction obtained by action of a grand a petit jury which was unconstitutionally selected and impaneled.
 - (i) Denial of effective assistance of counsel.
 - (j) Denial of right of appeal.

A. GROUND ONE: Conviction was legally insufficient and against the weight of the evidence to support

judgment under attack?

(a) Name of court: N/A

No

Yes

the conviction of attempted murder, and burglary.
Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim):
Prosecutor failed to establish all elements of attempted murder in the second degree, first or second
degree burlary, the conviction was neither established or supported by the evidence.
B. GROUND TWO: Petitioner's constitutional right was violated under the the confrontation clause, use
Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim):
Petitioner's right was violated when the prosecution and lower denied Petitioner an opportunity to confront
the witness and allowed prior statements to be submitted as evidence denying Petitioner a fair trial.
C. GOUND THREE: Petitioner's sentence was unduly harsh, excessive, and vindictive.
Supporting facts_(Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim):
Petitioner's constitutional right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment was violated by the lower
court sentencing Petitioner to consecutive sentences
D. GROUND FOUR: Appealte Division decision is contrary to cleary established Federal Law
Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite case law. Just state the specific facts that support your
claim.
Appellate's Division decision is contrary to federal law and violated Petitioner's right to confront a witness
against Petitioner when statements by a witness that was previously made was put into evidence before
a jury without Petitioner being afforded a chance to examine denying Petitioner a fair trial
GROUND FIVE: Petitioner was deprived of substainial due process and is being held unlawfully.
Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite case law. Just state specific facts that supports your claim)
Petitioner was deprived by both the lower Courts ruling to allow prior statements to be used at
Petitioner's trial and the Appellate Division's decision that Petitioner's right to confrontation was not
violated.
F. GROUND SIX: Current conviction was obtained unconstitutionally by lower courts deprivation of
due process.
Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite case law. Just state the specific facts that supports your
claim):
The lower Court denied Petitioner the opportunity to have a fair and unbiased trial by allowing predicial
evidence to be submitted before a jury at trial that should have been precluded
23. If you did not previously present any of the grounds listed in 22A, 22B, and 22C in any other court,
state, or federal, state briefly what grounds you did not present and give your reasons for not presenting
them: N/A

24. Do you have any petition or appeal now pending in any court, either state or federal, as to the

	(b)	Nature of Proceeding: N/A
	(c)	Date filed: N/A
	(d)	List all grounds you raised: N/A
25.	Giv	ve the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following stages
of t	he ju	dgment you are challenging:
	(a)	At preliminary hearing: N/A
	(b)	At arraignment and plea: N/A
	(c)	At trial: N/A
	(d)	At sentencing: N/A
	(e)	On appeal:
	(f)	In any post-conviction proceedings: N/A
	(g)	On appeal: N/A
26.	We	ere you sentenced one count of an indictment, or on more than one indictment, in the same court
and	at t	he same time?
		Yes No □
27.	Do	you have any future sentence to serve after you complete the sentence for the judgment that
you	are	challenging? Yes □ No ■
	(a)	If so, give the name and location of court that imposed the other sentence you will serve in the
futu	ire: _	N/A
	(b)	Give the date the other sentence was imposed: N/A
	(c)	Give the length of the other sentence: N/A
	(d)	Have you filed, or do you plan to file, any petition that challenges the judgment or sentence to be
ser	ved	in the future? Yes □ No □
		MELINESS OF PETITION: If your judgment of conviction became final over one year ago, you
mu	st e	xplain why the one-year statute of limitations as contained in 28 U.S.C. §2244(d) does not bar
you	ır pe	tition.*
		es not apply to this petition.
* T	he /	Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA") as contained in 28 U.S.C.
§22	:44(c	d) provides in part that:
		 (1) A 1-year period of limitation shall apply to an application for a writ of habeas corpus a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court. The limitation period shall run from the latest of (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the conclusion of direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such review; (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application created by State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of he United States is removed, if the applicant was prevented from filing by such state action; (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if the right has been recognized by the

Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or

(D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.
(2) The time during which a properly filed application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent judgment or claim is pending shall not be counted toward any period of limitation under this subsection.

Therefore, petitioner asks that the Court grant petitioner relief to which he may be entitled in this proceeding.

Signature of Attorney (if any)

I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of Perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus was placed in the prison mailing system on May 18, 2022.

Executed on May 18, 2022

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on May 48, 2022

EXHIBIT A:

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE

OF NEW YORK:

APPELLATE DIVISION: SECOND

DEPARTMENT

WESTLAW CITE: 188 A.D.3d 1239

Supreme Court of the State of New York Appellate Division: Second Indicial Department

D64772 Kfb/htr

AD3d	Argued - September 14, 2020
RUTH C. BALKIN, J.P. JEFFREY A. COHEN SYLVIA O. HINDS-RADIX	
FRANCESCA E. CONNOLLY, JJ.	
2016-05886	DECISION & ORDER
The People, etc., respondent, v Jose Bernazard, appellant.	
(Ind. No. 1764/13)	

Paul Skip Laisure, New York, NY (Ronald Zapata of counsel), for appellant.

Melinda Katz, District Attorney, Kew Gardens, NY (Johnnette Traill and Michael J. Curtis of counsel), for respondent.

Appeal by the defendant from a judgment of the Supreme Court, Queens County (Deborah Stevens Modica, J.), rendered May 19, 2016, convicting him of attempted murder in the second degree, burglary in the first degree, attempted assault in the first degree, assault in the second degree, stalking in the first degree, aggravated criminal contempt (two counts), assault in the third degree (two counts), criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation, criminal trespass in the second degree, criminal mischief in the fourth degree, and criminal contempt in the second degree (three counts), upon a jury verdict, and sentencing him to a determinate term of imprisonment of 25 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 5 years on the conviction of attempted murder in the second degree, a determinate term of imprisonment of 25 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 5 years on the conviction of burglary in the first degree, a determinate term of imprisonment of 15 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 5 years on the conviction of attempted assault in the first degree, a determinate term of imprisonment of 7 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 3 years on the conviction of assault in the second degree, a determinate term of imprisonment of 7 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 3 years on the conviction of stalking in the first degree, indeterminate terms of imprisonment of 21/3 to 7 years on the convictions of aggravated criminal contempt (two counts), and definite terms of imprisonment of 1 year each on the convictions of assault in the third degree (two counts), criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation, criminal trespass in the second degree, criminal mischief in the fourth degree, and criminal contempt in the second degree (three counts), with the sentences imposed on the convictions

November 25, 2020

of attempted murder in the second degree, burglary in the first degree, assault in the second degree, and aggravated criminal contempt under count 28 of the indictment to run consecutively with each other, and with all other sentences to run concurrently to each other and to those consecutive sentences.

ORDERED that the judgment is modified, as a matter of discretion in the interest of justice, (1) by vacating the conviction of assault in the second degree, vacating the sentence imposed thereon, and dismissing that count of the indictment, (2) by reducing the sentence imposed on the conviction of burglary in the first degree from a determinate term of imprisonment of 25 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 5 years to a determinate term of imprisonment of 10 years to be followed by a period of postrelease supervision of 5 years, and (3) by directing that the consecutive sentence imposed on the conviction of aggravated criminal contempt under count 28 of the indictment shall instead run concurrently with the consecutive sentences imposed on the convictions of attempted murder in the second degree and burglary in the first degree; as so modified, the judgment is affirmed.

We agree with the defendant's contention that the evidence was legally insufficient to support his conviction of assault in the second degree. While the defendant failed to preserve this challenge, we reach it in the exercise of our interest of justice jurisdiction (see CPL 470.15[6][a]). Viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the prosecution (see People v Contes, 60 NY2d 620, 621), it was legally insufficient to establish, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the child complainant sustained a "physical injury" within the meaning of Penal Law § 10.00(9). Physical injury is defined as "impairment of physical condition or substantial pain" (Penal Law § 10.00[9]). The several witnesses described only a minor injury, stated variously that they saw "a redness" on the child's cheek, or a slight swelling under his eye and cheek, or a bruise to the right cheek, which was treated with a cold pack. Nor did the record support a finding that the child complainant experienced substantial pain because he experienced only tenderness for one to two hours after the incident. Accordingly, there was insufficient evidence that the child complainant suffered a "physical injury" within the meaning of Penal Law § 10.00(9) (see People v Fews, 148 AD3d 1180, 1181-1182; People v Perry, 122 AD3d 775, 776; People v Boley, 106 AD3d 753, 753-754; People v Baksh, 43 AD3d 1072, 1073-1074; People v Richmond, 36 AD3d 721, 722). We therefore vacate the defendant's conviction of assault in the second degree and the sentence imposed thereon and dismiss that count of the indictment.

Contrary to the defendant's contention, we agree with the Supreme Court's admission of the grand jury testimony of the adult complainant, as well as her June 17, 2013 recorded statement to an assistant district attorney, during the People's case. Prior testimony of a witness may be admitted as direct evidence at trial where the witness is unavailable, or is unwilling to testify, or is influenced to give false trial testimony, thereby being rendered effectively unavailable (see People v Smart, 23 NY3d 213, 220; People v Geraci, 85 NY2d 359, 366). The evidence must establish that the witness's unavailability or unwillingness was procured by intentional misconduct on the part of the defendant which was aimed at preventing the witness from testifying truthfully (see People v Smart, 23 NY3d at 220; People v Geraci, 85 NY2d at 366). The People bear the burden of establishing at the Sirois hearing (see People v Sirois, 92 AD2d 618), by clear and convincing evidence, that the defendant engaged in conduct aimed at preventing the witness from testifying and caused that witness's decision not to testify or to plead the Fifth Amendment (see People v McCune,

Page 2. November 25, 2020

98 AD3d 631, 632). "Recognizing the surreptitious nature of witness tampering and that a defendant engaging in such conduct will rarely do so openly, resorting instead to subterfuge, the court can rely on and the prosecution can use circumstantial evidence in making the requisite determination" (People v Leggett, 107 AD3d 741, 742, quoting People v Encarnacion, 87 AD3d 81, 87; see People v Geraci, 85 NY2d at 369). Misconduct is defined "broadly to include intimidation and bribery, and the use of a relationship to improperly procure a witness's silence" (People v Encarnacion, 87 AD3d at 86 [citation omitted]; see People v Jernigan, 41 AD3d 331, 332).

Here, at the Sirois hearing, the People established that the adult complainant was fully cooperative with the prosecution from the day of the incident in June 2013 until the end of September 2013. The adult complainant gave a recorded statement to an assistant district attorney (hereinafter the ADA) on June 17, 2013, and testified for the People before the grand jury in June and July 2013. Further, the adult complainant always returned the ADA's phone calls prior to the end of September 2013. The People further established, by clear and convincing evidence, that the defendant began calling the adult complainant from Rikers Island at the beginning of September 2013 in violation of a full order of protection. A total of 67 calls were made to the adult complainant between September 10, 2013, and October 14, 2013, and the actual content of 16 of those calls was played at the hearing. The defendant frequently called the adult complainant from 3 to 11 times a day; in 5 of the recorded telephone calls, the defendant told the adult complainant not to cooperate with the prosecutor; the defendant frequently used emotional manipulation by repeatedly telling the adult complainant how much he loved, missed, and needed her; the defendant further played on the adult complainant's guilt by telling her how much pain he was in, that he did not deserve the punishment that he was receiving, and that it was now time for her to give him all of her love. The People further established that by October 21, 2013, the adult complainant would not cooperate with the People, making changed statements requiring the prosecution's need to file two Brady disclosures (see Brady v Maryland, 373 US 83). Under the circumstances of this case, the People established, by clear and convincing evidence, that the defendant wrongfully made use of his relationship with the adult complainant to pressure her to change her testimony (see People v Leggett, 107 AD3d at 741-742; People v Encarnacion, 87 AD3d at 87-89; People v Jernigan, 41 AD3d at 332-333; People v Major, 251 AD2d 999, 999-1000).

The People met their burden of proving the legality of consecutive sentences by establishing that the convictions arose out of separate and distinct criminal acts (see People v Laureano, 87 NY2d 640, 643; People v Brown, 80 NY2d 361, 364; People v Brathwaite, 63 NY2d 839, 843).

However, the sentence imposed was excessive to the extent indicated herein (see People v Suitte, 90 AD2d 80).

BALKIN, J.P., COHEN, HINDS-RADIX and CONNOLLY, JJ., concur.

ENTER

Aprilanne Agostino

Clerk of the Court

November 25, 2020

Page 3.

EXHIBIT B:

THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COURT OF APPEALS:
WESTLAW CITE: 36 N.Y.3d 1095

State of Rew York Court of Appeals

BEFORE:	HON. ROWAN D.	WILSON.	Associate :	Indae
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,

-against-

Respondent,

ORDER DENYING LEAVE

JOSE BERNAZARD,

Appellant.

Appellant having applied for leave to appeal to this Court pursuant to Criminal Procedure

Law § 460.20 from an order in the above-captioned case;*

UPON the papers filed and due deliberation, it is

ORDERED that the application is denied.

Dated: MAR 18 2021

Associate Judge

^{*}Description of Order: Order of the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department, dated November 25, 2020, modifying a judgment of the Supreme Court, Queens County, rendered May 19, 2016, and as so modified, affirming the judgment.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	
х	
JOSE BERNAZARD,	
Petitioner,	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
-against-	Docket No.
MARK MILLER, Superintendent Green Haven Correctional Facility Respondent.	
I, Jose Bernazard, hereby certify und	er penalty of perjury that the foregoing is
true and correct:	
I am over eighteen years of age and reside at G	reen Haven Correctional Facility, P.O.
Box 4000, Stormville, New York.	
On, 20, I served the within	1
Application Petition for Habba	c Const. C
Poor Parson Application & CERTIC	ficate of Sezuice
by depositing true copies thereof enclosed in a postpai	d wrapper in an official depository under
the exclusive control of the U.S. Postal Services within	the State of New York and addressed as
follows:	
Office of Attorney Great Department of Law The Capital Albany, N-Y-12226 (Address)	ueral
Dated: May 18, , 2022 Stormville, New York	
	Jose Bernsand
	(Signature)

Jose Bernazard # Hase 22 2000 03176-PKC
GREEN HAVEN Correctional Facility
P. O BOX 4000
STORMVILLE, NEW YORK 12582



Filed 05/26/22

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To: Clerk of U.S. District Court
ATTN: Pro-se office
Eastern District of New York
225 CASMan Plaza East
Brooklyn. N.Y. 11201



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Rernazard #16A2060 Page 17 of 17 PageID #: 17 EN HAVEN Corr, facility 0 Box 4000 STORMUILLE, N.Y. 12582